

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC

COMDT COAST GUARD

GOV GUAM

TREASURY

XMT AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 048035

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 27 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA

SUN REPORTS HAK, TALKING BRIEFLY WITH REPORTERS THURSDAY, SAID SOMEONE IN DOS, BUT NOT HE, WILL INTERVIEW NIXON FOLLOWING RETURN FROM PRC. STORY SAYS THIS SUGGESTS HAK MIGHT BE COMING CLOSER TO WIDELY-HELD WASHINGTON VIEW THAT NIXON, IN HIS SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, SHOULD NOT BE MAKING PUBLIC FOREIGN JUDGEMENTS IN PEKING. NOTES THURSDAY FUNSETH SAID DOS WILL OBTAIN NIXON'S IMPRESSIONS PRC SINCE HE WAS FIRST AMCIT MEETING HUA KUO-FENG.

FORD SAYS HIS NH PRIMARY VOTE TOTAL PROBABLY WAS HURT
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BY NIXON'S PRC TRIP (WSJ). SPEAKING DURING TAPED INTERVIEW WITH MIAMI RADIO STATION THURSDAY, PRES EMPHASIZED NIXON MADE TRIP AS PRIVATE CITIZEN ON PRC INVITATION, DID NOT SPEAK FOR ADMIN IN FOREIGN POLICY (AP, NYT).

WITH CHIOA HSIAO-KUANG, VICE CHAIRMAN AREA REVOLUTIONARY CMTE, APPEAR IN SUN AND WP (UPI) AND NYDN (AP). WP STORY REPORTS NIXON IGNORED US REPORTERS WHO MET HIM AT KWEILIN

AIRPORT ASKING HIS REACTION TO CRITICISM OF TRIP COMING FROM GOLDWATER, OTHERS. LARGE CROWDS LINED KWEILIN STREETS WHEN NIXON PARTY DROVE PAST.

AP (KWEILIN) SAYS NIXON RETURNED "EXHAUSTED " FROM HIKE THROUGH UNDERGROUND CAVES THURSDAY, BUT HIT HIS STRIDE LATER AT BANQUET, SAYING THAT OF ALL WORLD'S CITIES HE HAS VISITED THERE IS ,NOT ONE MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN KWEILIN.' NIXON AIDE BRENNAN INDICATED FORMER PRES WILL CONTINUE SILENCE ABOUT CRITICISM HIS TRIP, THAT "WOULD BE STUPID FOR HIM TO SAY ANYTHING.' BRENNAN SAID NIXON TRIED PAY FOR 10-COURSE PEKING BANQUET HE GAVE WEDNESDAY NIGHT, BUT CHINESE INSISTED WASN'T NECESSARY. ITEM REPORTS WESTERN SOURCES ESTIMATED BANQUET COST, FOR 300 GUESTS IN GREAT HALL, BETWEEN 3,000-5,000 DOLS. NIXON'S CORPSMAN, COMMENTING ON EX-PRES' TOUR OF CAVES, SAID HIS RECOVERY POWERS 'AMAZING,' THAT NIXON DOES NOT 'TENSE UP" UNDER CRITICISM, HIS ATTITUDE IS 'WHAT WILL BE, WILL BE' (SUN).

UPI (KWEILIN) REPORTS NIXON FLEW IN ACCOMPANIED BY YAO LIEN-WEI, VICE CHAIRMAN NPC STANDING CMTE, AND PRCLO'S HUANG CHEN. NOTES NIXON BRUSHED PAST NEWSMEN, ACTED AS IF HE DID NOT EVEN HEAR THEIR QUESTIONS (BALT NA 2/26).

REUTER (PEKING) REPORTS INFORMED SO'RCES SAYING WALLPOSTERS ATTACKING TENG HSIAO-PING BY NAME APPEARED AT PEKING U THURSDAY, AS EARLIER POSTERS WHICH HAD ONLY ALLUDED TO TENG WERE ALTERED, HIS NAME INSERTED. MARKS SIGNIFICANT ESCALATION IN RADICAL STRUGGLE AGAINST 'RIGHTIST DEVIATIONISTS., NOTHING HEARD OF TENG SINCE UNCLASSIFIED

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HE READ CHOU EN-LAI EULOGY JAN 15.

REUTER'S GRIFFITHS LATER VISITED CAMPUS, SAID HUNDREDS OF NEW POSTERS ATTACKING TENG OY NAME PUT UP PAST 24 HOURS, AND SEVERAL THOUSAND STUDENTS PACKED INTO PARTITIONED SECTION OF COURTYARD TAKING NOTES. SUGGESTS MEANS TENG'S POLITICAL FUTURE NOW IN GRAVE JEOPARDY. SOME FOREIGNERS ALSO REPORTED SEEING ANTI-TENG POSTERS IN PEKING FACTORY COMPOUNDS.

MOROCCAN AUTHORITIES SAY THEY HAVE SIGNED CONTRACT WITH PRC UNDER WHICH PEKING WILL HELP BUILD OLYMPIC-SIZE STADIUM FOUR MILES FROM RABAT. ADDED THAT 60,000-SEAT

STADIUM WILL INCLUDE LARGE NUMBER OPEN AIR/ INDOOR FACILITIES, COMPLETE WITH ELECTRONIC SYSTEM. COST OF PRC PARTICIPATION IN PROJECT NOT SPECIFIED, BUT ACCORD WAS MENTIONED AS POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT IN

DIPLOMATIC CHANCERIES (WSJ 2/26).

2. JAPAN

DEPSEC INGERSOLL SAID PLANNING RESIGN END MARCH (WSJ), ACCORDING INFORMED SOURCES (REUTER, SUN). INGERSOLL DECLINED CONFIRM OR DENY REPORTS THURSDAY; REFERRED QUESTIONS TO WH (WP). REPORTED PLANNING RETURN PRIVATE INDUSTRY. DOS OFFICIALS DENY SUGGESTION SISCO, INGERSOLL DEPARTURES MARK BEGINNING EXODUS HIGH OFFICIALS ANXIOUS LEAVE BEFORE ELECTION (SUN).

DIET BUDGET CMTE THURSDAY VOTED RESUME LOCKHEED HEARINGS MARCH 1, CALL KOTCHIAN, I-D CORP EXEC KATAYAMA, LOCKHEED TOKYO OFFICE MGR ONI. OSERVERS CITE LACK LEGAL BASIS CALL FOREIGNER BEFORE DIET. SPOKESMAN SAID AMEMBASSY NOT INFORMED PLANS CALL AMERICANS (UPI, JOC).

CMTE CHAIRMAN ARAFUNE SAID USG "WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROACHED," THREE AMCITS WOULD "HAVE TO AGREE" APPEAR. MFA THURSDAY INSTRUCTED EMBASSY WASHINGTON SEEK USG APPROVAL (REUTER TOKYO).

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SEIDEN (SUN) SAYS COMPROMISE VOTE HOLD ONE-DAY HEARING ENDED WEEK-LONG OPPOSITION BOYCOTT ALL ROUTINE PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS, PAVED WAY FOR RESUMPTION BUDGET DELIVERATIONS FRIDAY. LDP REFUSED AGREE ALLO'CMTE SUBPOENA TANAKA. ADDS TARO FUKUDA, PR EXEC WHO INTEFPRETED KODAMA MEETINGS LOCKHEED OFFICIALS, HOSPITALIZED FOR "GENERALLY POOR HEALTH," UNABLE APPEAR.

MALCOLM (NYT) NOTES CMTE VOTE, FIRST SUCH ACTION 86-YR HISTORY DIET, SHOWN LIVE NATION-WIDE TV. RECALLS KOTCHIAN EARLIER TOLD JSP DELEGATION IN LA "'WILLING APPEAR," IF US, JAPAN AGREE. ADDS AMCIT ONI CONSIDERED DUAL CITIZEN UNDER JAPANESE LAW, COULD BE COMPELLED APPEAR IF DIET CHOOSES PRESS ISSUE, OR COULD SEEK AMEBASSY PROTECTION.

SAAR (WP) CITES AMEMBASSY SPOKESMAN, THAT "NO WAY" KOTCHIAN, KATAYAMA, WHO NOT IN JAPAN, COULD BE COMPELLED APPEAR. SAAR NOTES ONI ONLY ONE OF THREE WITNESSES SOUGHT SUBJECT JAPANESE JURISDICTION, BUT PROBABLY WILL NOT TESTIFY; KOTCHIAN UNDER US COURT RESTRAINING ORDER NOT DISCUSS CASE.

DOS OFFICIAL NOTED THURSDAY SUBPOENAS HAVE NO EFFECT OUTSIDE COUNTRY IN WHICH ISSUED. HARVARD LAW PROF

HENRY STEINER SAID US PARTY BILATERAL TREATY THAT PROVIDES FOR SERVICE SUBPOENA IN US, BUT ONLY IN COMMERCIAL, CIVIL MATTERS; EVEN IF DID PROVIDE SERVICE THIS CASE, TREATY HAS NO PROVISION COMPEL AMERICAN GO JAPAN (NYT SPECIAL, WASHINGTON).

KODAMA TAKEN HOSPITAL FRIDAY, RELEASED TWO HOURS LATER BECAUSE HOSPITAL UNABLE PROTECT PRIVACY FROM PRESS (REUTER TOKYO).

CULLISON (JOC) NOTES KOMOTO CONFIRMED IN DIET THURSDAY GOJ PROBING CHARGES EIGHT DOMESTIC FIRMS GOT REBATES FROM GULF OIL. ALSO CHECKING REPORTS IDEMITSU KOSAN GOT REBATES FROM GULF IDEMITSU, THROUGH GULF SUBSIDIARY, APOLLO INTL, IN BAHAMAS. NOTES GOJ SO FAR FAILED UNCLASSIFIED

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ESTABLISH VIOLATION TAX LAW, SEEMS INCLINED CONSIDER REBATES "LATE REFUND" OF OVER-CHARGES FOR CRUDE OIL.

WSJ CITES MITI CONCLUSION GULF REBATES TO IDEMITSU WERE DISCOUNTS GRANTED REFINER IN COURSE 'NORMAL BUSINESS.' GULF OIL, PITTSBURGH, DECLINED COMMENT.

GOJ FRIDAY DECIDED JOIN IEA LONG-TERM PROGRAM FOR COOPERATION AMONG ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL NATIONS TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED OIL. PROGRAM, ADOPTED BY IEA PARIS LAST MONTH, PROPOSES CONSERVATION TARGETS, JOINT DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES, MINIMUM GUARANTEED PRICE. SOURCES SAID MEANS JAPAN SUPPORTS SEVEN DOL/BBL FLOOR PRICE IMPORTED OIL (REUTER TOKYO).

CRITTENDEN (NYT) NOTES GEORGE BALL SPOKE THURSDAY COLUMBIA U LAW SCHOOL LUNCHEON, ON MNC'S. SAID 'ONLY REALISTIC WAY' HALT OVERSEAS BRIBERY IS FOR USG IMPOSE SAME STRICT STANDARDS ON US FIRMS ABROAD AS IN US; COULD BE POLICED BY SEC. CALLED HAK OPPOSITION FULL DISCLOSURE 'DISTURBING.' DISMISSED OECD DRAFT CODE AS -LITTLE MORE THAN PIOUS DISAPPROVAL."

NISSAN MOTORS SAID THURSDAY PLANNING HIRE 250 SEASONAL WORKERS TO MEET EXPECTED INCREASE DEMAND FOR CARS (WSJ, TOKYO).

MITI SOURCES CONFIRMED THURSDAY GOJ "MAY YIELD" STRONG PRC PRESSURE, EXTEND MEDIUM-TERM SUPPLIER CREDIT AT STANDARD RATE 7.5 PCT SPECIFIED IN 1974 WASHINGTON AGREEMENT BY SIX MAJOR PLANT EXPORTERS (JOC, TOKYO).

MOF WEIGHING REVISION GUIDANCE THAT LIMITS ACCESS JAPAN CAPITAL MARKET BY FOREIGN GOVTS, IFI'S TO ONCE THREE MONTHS. MAY INCREASE FREQUENCY TO ONCE TWO MONTHS STARTING SPRING, IN VIEW RECENT IMPROVEMENTS UOP OUTLOOK (JOC, TOKYO).

3. KOREA

NKNA FRIDAY QUOTES NK MFA CHARGE US VIOLATED UNCLASSIFIED

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TRUCE BY INTRODUCING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, F-111 INTO SK. SAID SWEEP-WING PLANES ARRIVED FROM US TUESDAY. ALSO CHARGED US ADDED 4,000 MEN TO FORCES SK, LARGE QUANTITY MASS-DESTRUCTION WEAPONS. SAID DANGER OF OUTBREAK NEW WAR "INCREASING," BECAUSE OF US PROVOCATIONS (REUTER HK).

KIM CHU-LI, LEADER SPLINTER USP, SENTENCED THREE YEARS JAIL FRIDAY FOR AIDING NK BY RELEASING COURT DOCUMENT. JUDGE RULED KIM VIOLATED ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW, ED, BY RELEASING PROSECUTION DOCUMENT USED TRIAL LAST YEAR OF ANOTHER USP MEMBER, TRIED FOR SAYING NK BETTER OFF ECONOMICALLY THAN SK. KIM SAID WILL APPEAL (REUTER SEOUL).

SUN ABRIDGES HALLORAN (NYT) REVIEW THURSDAY OF NK BOP DIFFICULTIES. WSJ CARRIES THURSDAY AP (STOCKHOLM) REPORT NK NEGOTIATED TWO-YR DEBT MORATORIUM WITH SWEDISH MINING EQUIPMENT, MACHINERY MAKERS.

MIKE LAVELLE (SUN) IN CHICAGO REVIEWS TRADE ACT'S "SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE" PROVISIONS. CITES ACNA DATA SHOWING LOSS 45,000 JOBS IN CLOTHING, 10,000 IN SHIRT INDUSTRIES SINCE 1969. NOTES LARGEST EXPORTER MEN'S CLOTHING IS SK, WHERE HOURLY WAGES ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY EQUIVALENT 33 CENTS IN 1973, COMPARED 3.32 DOLS/HR IN US. ASSUMES SAME RATIO APPLIES NOW IN CLOTHING INDUSTRY.

MARYLIN BENDER (NYT) TELLS HOW MARION JAVITS ISSUE HAS FOCUSED UNWELCOME SPOTLIGHT ON PR FIRMS REPRESENTING FOREIGN CLIENTS. NOTES HILL-KNOWLTON HAS 300,000 DOL CONTRACT WITH KOREAN TRADERS' ASSN, TO BUILD ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR ROK AMONG US BUSINESS COMMUNITY; NOW PUBLICIZING "ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF KOREAN SOCIETY," AND ROK "POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENTS.'

4. INDOCHINA/THAILAND

PP RADIO SAYS US PLANES ATTACKED SIEM REAP WEDNESDAY,

KILLING 15, FLEW OFF TOWARD THAILAND. AMEMBASSY
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BANGKOK DENIES US PLANES INVOLVED IN ANY SUCH
INCIDENT (REUTER BANGKOK). DOS DESCRIBES REPORT
AS "RIDICULOUS" (REUTER WASHINGTON).

PRES FORD WITHDRAWS TRADE PREFERENCES FROM LAOS UNDER
TRADE LAW PROVISION BARRING COMMUNIST COUNTRIES FROM
RECEIVING BENEFITS (REUTER NYT, WP). MOVE WILL HAVE
NO PRACTICAL EFFECT, SINCE US-LAOS TRADE NEGLIGIBLE
(REUTER, WP).

SVN PRG SAYS WILL SEND 240 DEPUTIES TO CONSTITUENT
NATL ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD HANOI. DEPUTIES TO BE
ELECTED APR 27 (AFP, NYT; WP). NVN WILL HAVE 248
SEATS. SVN DIVIDED INTO 20 PROVS, WITH HO CHI MINH
CITY, SURROUNDING AREA, FORMING SPECIAL ADMIN UNIT
(AFP, NYT).

7. DIEGO GARCIA

US, UK SIGN AGREEMENT PERMITTING EXPANSION USN FACILITIES
IN ISLAND (WP).

8. HONG KONG

PROFIT TAX RATE HIKED FROM 16.5 TO 17 PCT; PROPOSAL
INTRODUCE DIVIDEND WITHHOLDING TAX DEFERRED IN FY 76-77
BUDGET THAT FORECASTS DEFICIT 255 MILLION HK DOLS (JOC).

9. GENERAL

IN ARTICLE ON INCREASING FOREIGN DEMAND FOR US COTTON,
JACKIEWICZ (WSJ) NOTES GREATEST INCREASE FROM JAPAN,
KOREA, HK MILLS. SAYS NO PRC ORDERS SO FAR,
DESPITE RUMORS BUYING US COTTON; PRC BUYING ON WORLD
MARKET, LEADING US COTTON MERCHANT EXPECTS PEKING
WILL EVENTUALLY BUY US COTTON.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. CHINA

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WSTAR'S NOYES (2/26) SUGGESTS NIXON PRC TRIP --
MISCHIEVOUS AS MAY BE IN TERMS US POLITICS --

MAY YET SERVE USEFUL PURPOSE OF STIMULATING US

THINKING ABOUT OUR LONG-RANGE RELATIONSHIPS WITH "THE TWO CHINAS." FEELS MAJORITY AMERICANS NOW FAVOR RECOGNITION PEKING REGIME, BUT WILL NOT ACCEPT AS PRICE SELLOUT OF OUR OBLIGATIONS/COMMITMENTS TO ROC. TO BRIDGE GAP, URGES MYTHS BE LAID TO REST -- FIRST BEING BELIEF TAIWAN INDISPUTABLY, HISTORICALLY INTEGRAL PART CHINESE MAINLAND, AS CLAIMED BY BOTH SIDES. RECALLS ISLAND'S HISTORY, NOTING CHINESE CONTROL TENUOUS, BLOODY FOR MOST OF ITS RECORDED HISTORY, ISLAND FORMALLY CEDED TO JAPAN IN 1895 WHERE IT REMAINED UNTIL END WWII. IN EFFECT, TAIWAN INDISPUTABLY, HISTORICALLY PROVINCE MAINLAND CHINA ONLY SINCE 1945.

ACCORDING NOYES, SECOND MYTH NEEDING DISPOSING OF BEFORE CHINA PROBLEM SOLVED IS BELIEF GROC IS GOVT OF ALL CHINA. POINTS OUT PRC HAS EXERCISED EFFECTIVE SOVEREIGNTY IN CHINA IN DECADES, AND TO CONTINUE DENY THIS AS MATTER OF SEMI-RELIGIOUS DOGMA HAS BECOME ABSURDITY WHICH ENORMOUSLY COMPLICATES ANY RATIONAL SOLUTION OF PROBLEM. ONCE MYTHS FINALLY DISPELLED, SOLUTION FAIRLY OBVIOUS: AT SOME POINT, INDEPENDENT ROC IS HISTORIC INEVITABILITY. US SHOULD DO WHAT IT CAN TO PROMOTE ITS INCEPTION, SMOOTH ITS ACCEPTANCE INTO INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS IN CASE EAST AND WEST GERMANY, OR NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA; SHOULD NOT BE SO VERY HARD TO DO.

CHI-ST (2/24) FELT NXION'S BANQUET TOAST REMARKS WERE CLEARLY CRITICISM AIMED AT HELSINKI UNDERSTANDING, THEREFORE ILL-PLACED, ILL-TIMED. MAINTAINS NIXON NOT SIMPLY PRIVATE CITIZEN, IS PUBLIC FIGURE WHOSE PUBLIC STATEMENTS HAVE PUBLIC IMPACT.

CHI S-T'S ROSS (2/24) REPORTS "ASIAN DIPLOMATS WITH GOOD CONNECTIONS IN CHINA" SUGGESTED MONDAY THAT NIXON, DURING 1972 PRC VISIT, MADE SECRET CONCESSIONS ON UNCLASSIFIED

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SOVIET, TAIWAN THAT PEKING IS NOW SEEKING EXPLOIT. THESE DIPLOMATS INTERPRETED NIXON PRESENT VISIT AS CLEAR PEKING SIGNAL TO FORD THAT HE MUST MATCH CONCESSIONS IF HE WANTS MAINTAIN PEKING CONNECTION. DIPLOMATS ALSO SAID VERY FACT NIXON ABLE MAKE TRIP IS SIGN OF HIS CONTINUING POLITICAL POWER IN US AND SIGN OF FORD'S WEAKNESS. BUT DIPLOMATS DISCOUNTED SPECULATION PEKING TIMED VISIT, ON EVE NH PRIMARY, IN ORDER HURT FORD'S PROSPECTS OR AS INDIRECT ENDORSEMENT REAGAN, SINCE CHINESE RELATIVELY UNSOPHISTICATED ABOUT US DOMESTIC POLITICS.

ROSS SAYS DIPLOMATS DISCLAIMED DIRECT KNOWLEDGE

CONCESSIONS BY NIXON, BUT IMPLIED CHINESE HAVE BEEN SUBTLY HINTING AT THEM FOR SOME TIME; IMPLICATION WAS NIXON PROMISED STRONGER SINO-US POSITION AGAINST SOVIET AND QUICKER END US-ROC TIES THAN INDICATED IN SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. REPORTS DIPLOMATS THEORIZED CONCESSIONS MIGHT HAVE BEEN MADE IN PRIVATE NIXON/MAO MEETINGS, WITH EVEN HAK EXCLUDED.

NYDN SAYS GOLDWATER'S SUGGESTION NIXON EXILE HIMSELF IN PRC MIGHT WELL VIOLATE EIGHT AMENDMENT PROHIBITION AGAINST CRUEL OR UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT, BUT SEN'S FEELINGS ABOUT "TASTLESSNESS AND IMPROPRIETY" NIXON TRIP SHARED BY MILLIONS AMERICANS. ADDS THAT PERHAPS GOLDWATER REMARKS WILL ALSO MAKE CHINESE LEADERS REALIZE THAT, FOR PURPOSES TAKING SWIPE AT PRESENT ADMIN, MAN WHOSE STOCK LOW AS NIXON'S MAKES POOR WEAPON.

LAT ADVISES GOLDWATER THAT NIXON, ON CURRENT PRC "EGO TRIP," NOT VIOLATING LOGAN ACT, ANYMORE THAN HAS DONE ANYTHING BRING CREDIT TO US. PEKING PERFORMANCE MAY BE EMBARRASSING HIS GOVT, BUT HAS NOT BEEN NEGOTIATING IN NAME US -- AND THIS WHAT ACT PROSCRIBES.

THE TIMES, LONDON SUGGESTS NIXON PRC VISIT MAY DO MORE RESTORE SINO-US CORDIAL RELATIONS THAN RECENT FORD VISIT, HAK'S LAST THREE TRIPS TO PEKING. OBSERVES THAT AT FAREWELL BANQUET, HUA SPOKE MORE WARMLY OF UNCLASSIFIED

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SINO-US RELATIONS THAN DID TENG DURING LAST FORD/HAK VISIT--ALTHOUGH AT END OF SPEECH, HUA FIRST TOASTED FORD. NOTES NIXON GAVE "HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE," RECITING LONGISH SPEECH WITHOUT NOTES (WSTAR 2/26).

GOODMAN (GLOBE) CITES SIZABLE COMMENTARY ABOUT NIXON "DOING IN" FORD WITH PRC TRIP, BUT SAYS OVERLOOKED IS "MORE INTRIGUING POSSIBILITY" NIXON IS PREPARING DEFECT. WHY NOT? HAS ALWAYS BEEN MORE COMFORTABLE BEING INSCRUTABLE, AND IN PRC IT'S "NATIONAL POLICY." AFTER ALL, WHAT HAS SOVIET BALLET DANCER TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THAT EX-PRES DOESN'T? IS RESTRICTED FROM PRACTICING HIS PROFESSION IN WAY HE WOULD FREELY CHOOSE IN US, CAN NO LONGER PLUNGE INTO CROWDS OR ASSEMBLE NETWORKS I,N OVAL OFFICE, CANNOT MEET WITH PEER GROUP OF OTHER STATE HEADS; WORST OF ALL, IS DEFINITELY RESTRAINED FROM

PRACTICING FOREIGN DIPLOMACY ART. ADDS THAT AMERICANS TEND LOOK AT SAN CLEMENTE RECLUSE AS IF LEPER, OTHER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES WOULDN'T BE SEEN IN PUBLIC WITH HIM; STAFF, WH AND TAX SHELTERS TAKEN AWAY, AS HAVE BEEN

HIS RED BUTTON, TAPES, AND PAPER SHREDDER. IN PRC, CAN BE SEEN IN PUBLIC, ALLOWED BE US DIPLOMAT, TOUCH CHILDREN, BE IMPORTANT ONCE AGAIN TO HAK, CAN BE SPOILER--AND FOOD IS TERRIFIC. WE HAVE SEEN NEW, NEW NIXON, AND WITH ANY LUCK, HE IS DEFECTOR--ONE NIXONIAN POLICY FOR WHICH HE COULD FIND MUCH SUPPORT.

US CARTOONISTS CONTINUE REVEL IN NIXON PRC VISIT. NYDN HAS KING PRINT DEPICTING CHINESE WHO SHOWS EX-PRES HEADLINES, "NIXON SHOULD STAY IN CHINA; GOLDWATER," AND SAYS TO NIXON, "GLAD TO OFFER YOU ASYLUM." HERBLOCK (WP) SKETCHES CHINESE BIDDING NIXON FAREWELL, AS ONE WHISPERS TO HUA, "DO YOU THINK THE FREE TRIP IS ENOUGH, OR SHOULD WE GIVE HIM A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA?" OLIPHANT (WSTAR 2/26) HAS NIXON, HANDS ALOFT IN VICTORY GESTURE, ON CHINESE THRONE-LIKE SEAT, AS MAO SAYS TO PAT, "TAKE HIM HOME PLEASE--HE'S BEGINNING TO MAKE ME NERVOUS;" OLIPHANT'S FAMILIAR DUCK, IN ASIDE TO ANOTHER CHINESE, SAYS, "HUMOR HIM--HE THINKS HE JUST WON THE PEKING PRIMARY." UNCLASSIFIED

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DOONSBURY'S AMB DUKE (SUN) CONFESSES HE SLEPT DURING PEKING OPERA PERFORMANCE BECAUSE FOUND IT "BREATH TAKINGLY BORING." DUKE'S HOST, "MR. MING," REVEALS THIS TYPE COMPLAINT BEING ADDRESSED BY NEWLY-FORMED PEOPLE'S COUNCIL OF ART FOR ART'S SAKE, DESPITE MAO'S LOATHING FORM OVER CONTENT--BUT NO NEED TELL CHAIRMAN, THIS ONLY FOR TOURISTS.

11. THAILAND

LAT'S MCARTHUR AT BANGKOK LOOKS OVER US TROOP WITHDRAWAL STATUS, FINDS CONFUSION AS MAR 20 DEADLINE NEARS. SAYS NEGOTIATIONS IN MIDDLE THAI ELECTION FRUSTRATING AS MFA "LEAKS" TRY SHOW PUBLIC IT WRESTLES GAMELY WITH US ON ISSUE. NOTES KUKRIT GOVT HAS STILL NOT SPECIFIED WHAT IT WANTS, WHILE THERE ARE HAWK, DOVE POSITIONS WITHIN DOD, DOS. SAYS SOME MIL FEEL SMALL NUMBER TROOPS IN THAILAND COULD BE TRAP TO GET US INTO TROUBLE, WHILE SOME DOS PEOPLE WANT LARGER FORCE FOR POL REASONS, TO MAINTAIN US PRESENCE, BOLSTER THAIS. SEES MINIMAL POSITION FOR US AS DESIRE FOR INTELLIGENCE STATIONS; FOR THAIS, NEED US MIL AID, PLUS TECHNICIANS, ADVISERS. FINDS DIFFICULT JUDGE HOW SINCERE OTHER THAI DEMANDS ARE. BELIEVES DEADLINE POL EMBARRASSMENT FOR THAIS.

ONE BERT KURLAND, EVACUATED FROM SAIGON ON LAST DAY IN APR, WRITES WP THAT HE HOPES ANY NORMALIZATION PROGRAM WITH VN CAREFULLY MONITORED, ESPECIALLY IF INVOLVES RESOURCES. POINTS OUT ABUNDANT RICE HARVEST SVN SHIPPED TO NVN AFTER TAKEOVER, WITH RESULTANT FOOD SHORTAGES IN SVN. WONDERES WHO WOULD BENEFIT IF DEAL CAN BE WORKED

OUT GIVING RECONSTRUCTION AID IN EXCHANGE FOR OIL
DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS. HOPES ANY US AID TO VN INCLUDES
SHARING BY SVIETS.

12. ASEAN

GREENWAY (WP) AT BALI WONDERS IF SUMMIT AGREEMENTS WILL
BENEFIT POOR VILLAGE PEOPLE. CALLS CONFERENCE IMPRESSIVE,
ADMITS SEEMING PROGRESS TOWARD ECON COOPERATION, BUT
NOTES CYNICISM HAS GROWN UP OVER PAST 9-10 YRS AMONG
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OFFICIALS WHO WILL HAVE IMPLEMENT AGREEMENTS. GIVES
AS EXAMPLE FORMER BRIGHT HOPES FOR INDONESIA AFTER
SUKARNO'S FALL THAT HAVEN'T MATERIALIZED DUE CORRUPTION,
MISMANAGEMENT. SAYS FILS DISILLUSIONED DUE IMELDA'S
GRAFT, MISUSE HUSBAND'S POSITION. QUOTES THAIS THAT
CORRUPTION NOT LESSENED DESPITE OVERTHROW MIL REGIME.
ADDS MALAYSIANS WONDER WHETHER GOVT CAN CONTINUE
DISCRIMINATE AGAINST CHINESE. NOTES SINGAPOREANS
QUESTIONING LEE KWAN YEW'S EVER-MORE ARBITRARY RULE. SEES
THOUGHTFUL SEASIANS LOOKING ASKANCE AT GLITTERING CAPITALS
WHILE SLUM DWELLERS, VILLAGERS TRAPPED IN PAST THROUGH
POVERTY, IGNORANCE. COMMENTS ASEAN CONFERENCE SEEMED
ACHIEVE MORE THAN THOUGHT POSSIBLE, BUT NOW LESS
OPTIMISM THAN DECADE AGO ABOUT ABILITY CHANGE FOR BETTER,
MANY WORRY THAT IF PRO-WESTERN, CAPITALISTIC ESTABLISH-
MENTS OF REGION CANNOT DELIVER ON PROMISES SOON, OTHERS
WITH FAR LESS TOLERANCE WILL DO IT FOR THEM.

13. MARIANAS

NYT NOTES CONGRESS ACQUIESCED IN COMMONWEALTH STATUS.
SAYS LEFT UNANSWERED ARE HOW SECURE ADDED STRATEGIC
EXPOSURE COULD BE MADE, WHETHER EXPANSION REALLY SERVES
COUNTRY'S INTERESTS. BELIEVES RESIDENTS OTHER TERRITORIES
NOW CAN DEMAND EQUAL TREATMENT WITH MARIANAS IN TERMS
WELFARE, SOCIAL BENEFITS; USG ALSO FACES FURTHER
CHALLENGES UNDER INTL LAW WHEN ISSUE GOES TO UNSC.
CONCLUDES ADMIN TOO EAGER, HAS NOT CONSIDERED FUTURE POL
STATUS MICRONESIA AS WHOLE. FORESEES LEGAL, PRACTICAL
PROBLEMS FOR US WITH FEW IF ANY COMPENSATING BENEFITS.

14. GENERAL

ASKING HOW CORPORATE CUMSHAW ABROAD BEGAN, CROCKER SNOW
(GLOBE) AGREES WITH FRIEND WHO COMPARED TO OLD QUESTION --
"WHO'S TO BLAME, THE PROSTITUTE OR THE CUSTOMER?"
NOTES LOCKHEEDS, GULFS, NORTHRUPS HAVE DONE LITTLE MORE
THAN PLAY "WHEN IN ROME" GAME, IN KOREA, THAILAND,
PHILIPPINES, TAIWAN, ROK, WHERE KICKBACKS COMMONPLACE
AS COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS IN US. CAUTIONS NOT USEFUL

BE ,MORALISTIC," SELF-RIGHTEOUS ABOUT PAYOLA FAR-AWAY
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PLACES, BUT DOES NOT INTEND SAY ALL US FIRMS GO ALONG,
OR SHOULD. CITES EXAMPLE IBM, WHICH DOMINATES OWN
FIELD, AND DOES NOT. NEVERTHELESS, SUGGESTS MAY BE
SELF-DEFEATING, IN TERMS WORLD ECONOMY, TO TRY STOP
PRIVATE PAYOFFS COMPLETELY, AND TRY REFORM PRACTICE
OF OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH SMACKS OF "CULTURAL IMPERIALISM."

RESTON (NYT) OBSERVES THAT ON FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS US
RELATIONS WITH PRC, SOVIET, JAPAN, ETC., FORD AND HAK
PROBABLY CLOSER MANSFIELD, ALBERT, HUMPHREY, THAN
LATTER THREE ARE TO PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES THEIR OWN
PARTY; ARE LOYAL DEMS, BUT NO SINGLE FUNDAMENTAL FOREIGN
POLICY ISSUE WHERE THEY PUT PARTISAN POLITICS AHEAD OF
NATIONAL INTEREST. PRC HAS BEEN MORE RECKLESS THAN
SOVIET IN TRYING INTERVENE IN US ELECTION, TRYING USE
NIXON AGAINST HIS OWN PRES TO DRAMATIZE PEKING'S ANTI-
SOVIET POLICY. NIXON, IRONICALLY, HAS LET HIMSELF BE
USED IN COMMUNIST MANEUVER -- BUT TOO MUCH MADE OF THIS
OBVIOUS, SILLY INCIDENT, WHICH MERELY MISTAKE OF MANNERS,
TIMING, BUT NOT IMPORTANT. SURPRISING THING IS THAT
PEKING, AND FOR FEW DAYS FORD ADMIN, TOOK NIXON TRIP
SERIOUSLY, WHEN ITS SOLE REAL SIGNIFICANCE IS THAT IT
DEPRIVED EX-PRES OF HIS ARGUMENT HE IS TOO ILL TO TESTIFY
AT WATERGATE TRIALS NOW WANTING HIM AS WITNESS.

RESTON SAYS WASHINGTON AGITATED, IRRITATED BY ALL THESE
CAMPAIGN MANEUVERS WHERE CANDIDATES RUNNING AGAINST
WASHINGTON. SOME FUNDAMENTAL BLUNDERS MADE, ACKNOWLEDGED,
BUT IN LAST TWO GENERATIONS WASHINGTON HAS RESCUED
NATION FROM ECO/SOCIAL DISRUPTION, AND ESTABLISHED NEW,
IF SHAKY, POWER BALANCE. SO IT ASKS WHAT MESSRS REAGAN,
WALLACE, CARTER WOULD PUT IN PLACE OF POLICY OF COESIXTENCE
IN WORLD, ETC; AND, LACKING ANY RATIONAL REPLY FROM
CANDIDATES SO FAR, ADMIN, CONGRESS, BUREAUCRACY CONTINUE
ABOUT AS BEFORE. INGERSOLL

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